

REMARKS

I. General Remarks and Disposition of the Claims.

Please consider the application in view of the following remarks. Applicants thank the Examiner for his careful consideration of this application.

Claims 1-63 are pending. Claims 1-20 and 40-63 have been cancelled herein in response to a restriction and/or election requirement.

II. Remarks Regarding Restriction and Election Requirements

In the present office action the Examiner has required an invention election under 35 U.S.C. § 121. With respect to the restriction requirement, the Examiner stated that:

I. Claims 1-46, drawn to a method of using tracers, classified in class 73, subclass 40.7.

II. Claims 47-62, drawn to a composition of polymer and photoactive dye, classified in class 106, subclass 31.28.

III. Claim 63, drawn to a method of making a matrix, classified in class 436, subclass 27.

With respect to the election requirement, the Examiner stated that:

This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species: the method of invention I is drawn to distinct embodiments: single tracers, two tracers, multiple stage tracer introduction, and verifying the function of a limiting tool. The species are independent or distinct because each embodiment is used alternatively, and not together.

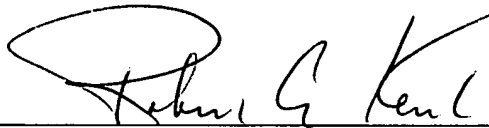
Accordingly, Applicants hereby elect the prosecution of Group I, Species 2 claims. In accordance with the restriction/election requirement, Applicants identify claims 21-39 as falling within these elected species. As noted above, claims 1-20 and 40-63 have been cancelled in response to the restriction/election requirement imposed by the Examiner. No amendment to inventorship is necessitated by this election. Applicants reserve their rights to subsequently take up prosecution on the claims as originally filed in this or an appropriate continuation, continuation-in-part, or divisional application.

SUMMARY

In light of the above remarks and arguments, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding objections and rejections. Applicant further submits that the application is now in condition for allowance, and earnestly solicits timely notice of the same. Should the Examiner have any questions, comments, or suggestions in furtherance of the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the attorney of record by telephone.

Applicant believes that there are no fees due in association with the filing of this Response. However, should the Commissioner deem that any additional fees are due, including any fees for extensions of time, the Commissioner is authorized to debit the deposit account of Halliburton Energy Services, Inc. No. 08-0300, for any underpayment of fees that may be due in association with this filing.

Respectfully submitted,



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